

Attorney Docket No.: ISPH-0617
Inventors: Bennett and Cowser
Serial No.: 10/001,844
Filing Date: November 16, 2001
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to nucleobases 501 through 926 of a coding region of a nucleic acid molecule (SEQ ID NO: 3) encoding SHH ~~(SEQ ID NO: 3)~~, wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with said ~~nucleic acid molecule encoding SHH~~ and inhibits the expression of SHH.

Claim 2 (original): The compound of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (original): The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

Claim 5 (original): The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 6 (original): The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

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Claim 7 (original): The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-o-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

Claim 8 (original): The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

Claim 9 (original): The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

Claim 10 (original): The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (original): A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 13 (original): The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

Claim 14 (original): The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of inhibiting the expression of SHH in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues in vitro with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of SHH is inhibited.

Claims 16-20 (canceled)